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Wernicke Elastic Bookcase

Building up a Library

Expansion applied to Books

ONWARD from the Norman Conquest rises the stream of what scholars call "our modern tongue," the stream that, deep and placid, in the XIV Century flowed through Chaucer, "well of English undefiled." Near the sources, and marking strongly the rising stream, stands the first long poem in this modern tongue. It is known as *Layàmon's Brut*, and was written about the year 1200 by an obscure monk. All we know of him, he tells us himself in the opening lines of his poem:

It came to him in mind,
And in his chief thought,
That he would of England
Tell the noble deeds.

. . . . . .

Layamon began the journey
Wide over this land,
And procured the noble books
Which he took for pattern.

. . . . . .

Layamon laid down those books
And turned the leaves;
He beheld them lovingly.
May the Lord be merciful to him.*

Had Layamon left a three-volume autobiography written in the first person, he could not have touched more nearly the hearts of English readers. From this delicately conceived and simply executed picture, we know the old monk is of our blood—the red English blood that has produced so many earnest writers and honest lovers of good books. Touched with the English-speaking spirit of this medieval monk, we look lovingly back to one of the books that he procured, and find it was written in 731 by the Venerable Bede, an Anglo-Saxon monk who loved books so well that he declined to be raised to the dignity of an abbott because "the office demands household care, and household care brings with it distraction of mind, which hinders the pursuit of learning." Turn where we will, along the whole course of English letters—

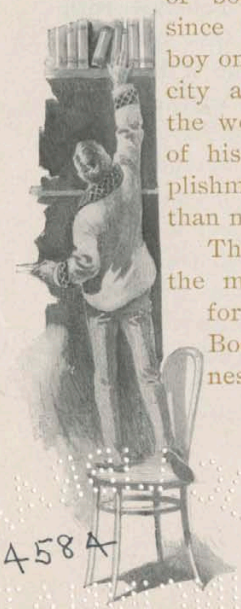
XIV Century Bookcase.

* Prof. Morley's modernization.

LIBRARY
CINCINNATI

*P022.5
W496

to Richard de Bury, who in 1345 wrote his *Philobiblion*, the first book on the love and care of books, or to Robert Southey in the last pitiful years of his scholarly life when, with the powers of writing and reading both gone, as Wordsworth tells us, "his eyes flashed for a moment with their former brightness, but he sank into the state in which I had found him, patting with both hands his books, affectionately, like a child"—turn where we will, we find the source of strength of the English-speaking race to lie largely in their love of books. The habits of mind and of morals engendered by an honest, healthy love of books may well be the strength both of nation and individual. How vast the catalogue of books about books has become since Richard de Bury's day! The boy on the farm and the boy in the city alike to-day can early cherish the worthy hope of forming a library of his own. Never was the accomplishment of such a hope more easy than now.



The following pages will point out the most modern method of caring for books after they are gotten. Books, to attain their full usefulness, must be readily accessible.

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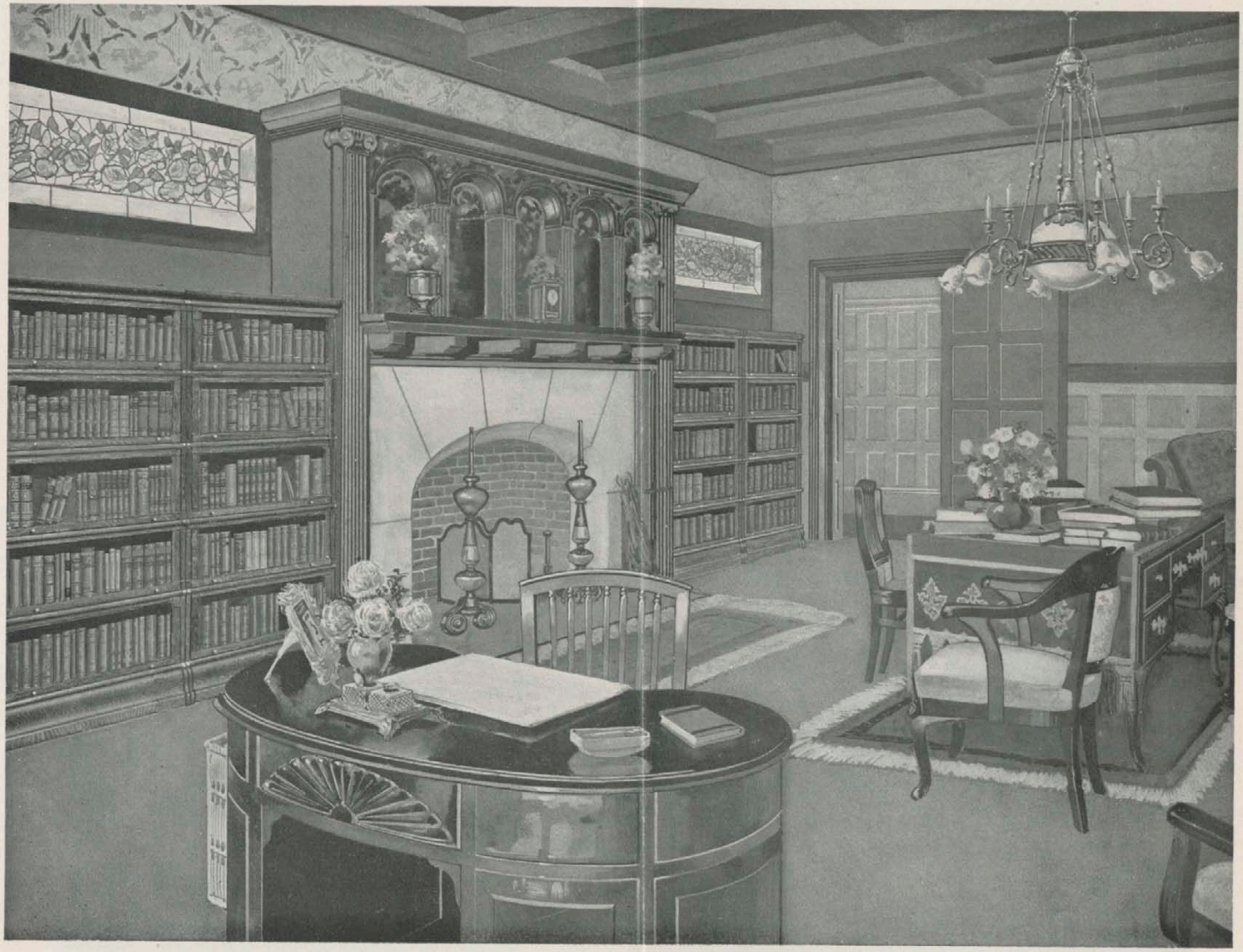
The very sight, from day to day, of one's own books upon one's own shelves is an inspiration. The titles beckon you, like old friends, to draw out of their treasure houses things new and old. The man who is judiciously building up a library likes to see such friends well housed. Unprotected shelves, open to the dust, to the innocent maraudings of children, to the little accidents of house-cleaning, are not the proper domicile for life companions.

It is only quite recently that a convenient, adequate and rational system for housing books has been invented and put on the market. Those who have gone through the many vexing attempts properly to care for books recognize at once the sterling merit of the Wernicke Elastic Bookcase—both so practical and so simple that people wonder it was not thought of long ago.

Moving an old-style bookcase.



Interior of a fine home library.

THE Wernicke Elastic Bookcase is a *System of Units*. In the following illustration, A represents the base Unit ; B, the door Unit ; C, the top Unit—all arranged to intermember one with another in a secure and harmonious manner.

The patented metal trimmings, *a a a a*, serve as ornaments—prevent disarrangement, and contain the essential devices by means of which two or more Units may be securely interlocked in horizontal extension, as shown in succeeding pages.

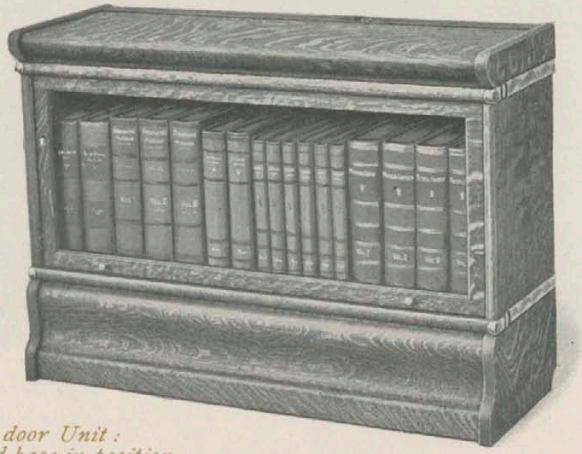
The disappearing dust-proof glass door, in opening, swings upward, and may be pushed backward over the book space, entirely out of the way, as shown in the illustration below. In closing, it is drawn forward and released, whereupon it closes noiselessly by gravity on an air cushion. It cannot remain open accidentally, nor come open of itself. Careful experiments that have stood the test of time in all climates and under severe conditions, enable us to guarantee an absolutely perfect, easy working door of this type, one that cannot bind, stick, spring or warp in operation, and that *does not encroach upon the available book space.*

The Units of the Wernicke System are made in styles, sizes and grades suitable for every requirement in the home or office, and are adapted by careful calculation to accommodate books from the smallest up to folios 13½ inches high.

It is important to users of Elastic Bookcases that duplicate Units can be easily obtained at all times. Our regular Units are of such variety and capable of so many different arrangements that it is seldom necessary and *never desirable* to have specials made to order to fit given spaces.

One door Unit, with top and base, is, up to its capacity, a complete bookcase. It is no

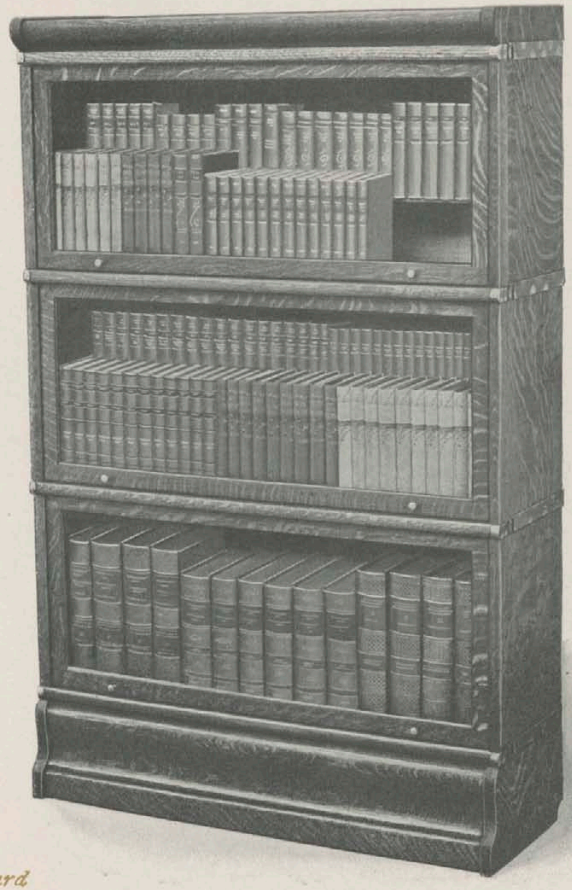
Single door Unit with top and base separated.



Single door Unit : top and base in position.

longer necessary to have the few books one owns kicking about the house, unprotected.

The owner of a dozen books can start with one Unit (without the base, if desired) and add successive Units as the store of books increases. A Wernicke Elastic Bookcase is never too large nor too small, it is *always complete, but never finished.* It is a Living Bookcase that grows



Standard style.
(Note the arrangement of small books.)

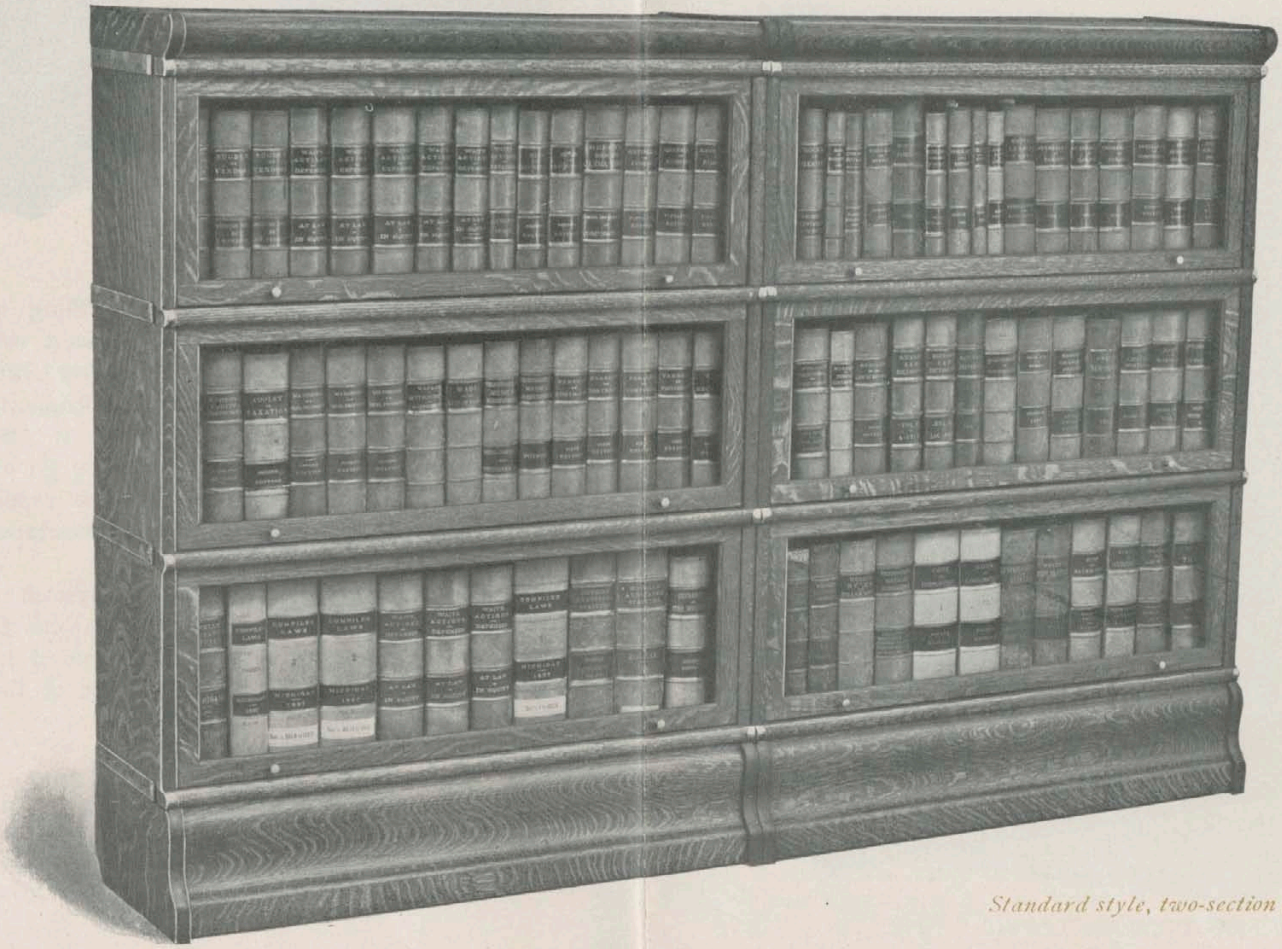
The Young Man's Dream.

up with your library. At a cost trifling in comparison with the value of the books it will preserve, you can begin with one or more Units and, with a small outlay, increase the capacity of your bookcase, just as you need it. So gradually does the building-up process go on that the expense is not felt, and the result is a bookcase which you might have hesitated to purchase all at once.

The adaptability of the Wernicke System to a well-nigh infinite variety of combinations to fit spaces and to ornament a room, is one of its most attractive features. The design of the Units is pleasing and artistic.

Every book is displayed to the best possible advantage, with its title in full view. When properly arranged, these bookcases do not suggest their elastic features, to the uninitiated; and yet they can be taken down and changed to suit any conditions or rearrangements of furniture that the art of the house may suggest.

This portability is a great preserver of the books in house-cleaning and moving times. An old-style bookcase is as impossible to move as a ton of lead, unless the books are first taken out. The average boy can carry a Wernicke Unit filled with books, and can rearrange or move a case without disturbing a single volume.

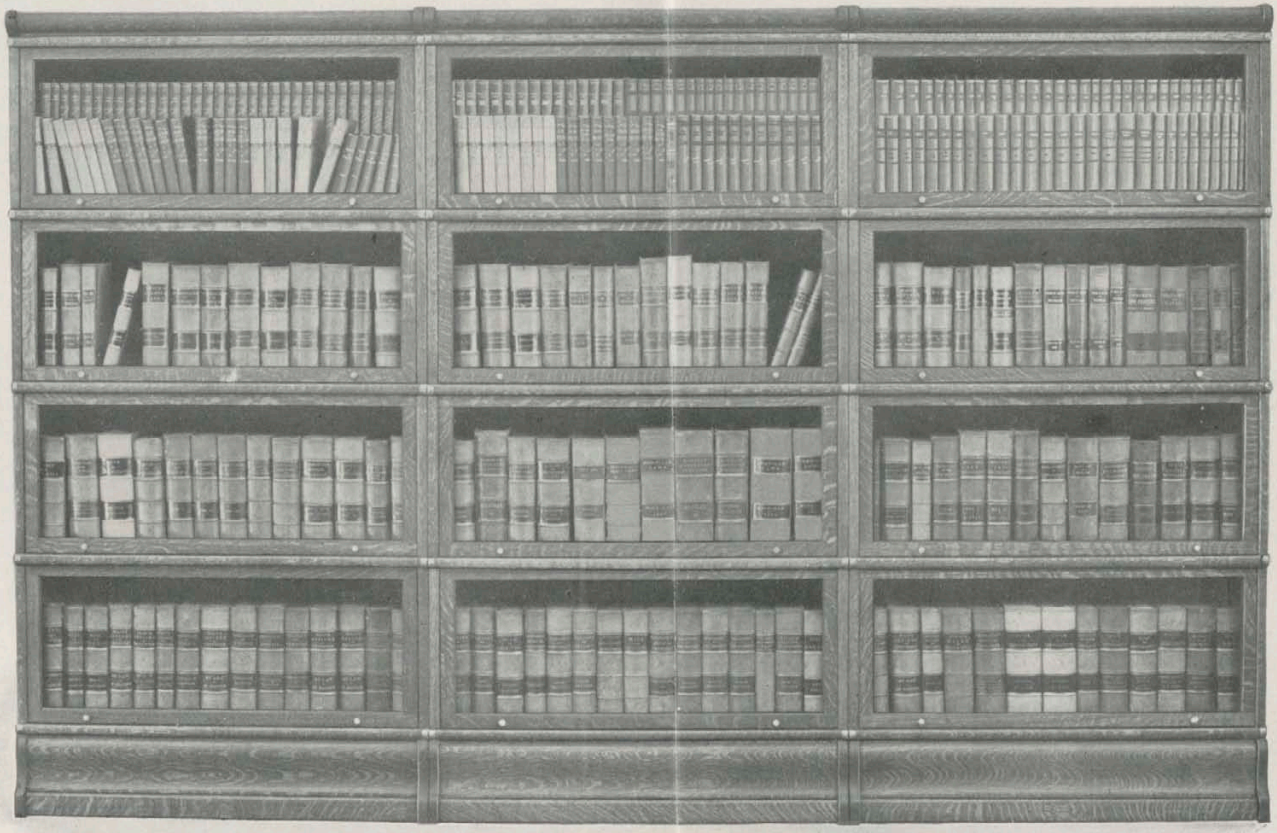


Standard style, two-section case.

The possibility of horizontal expansion in the Standard style is one of the best features. A case which has been growing upward can be taken down, and, with a few new Units added, can be changed easily, without tools or skill, into those long, low bookcases that give such a happy furnishing to the library.

When a number of Units are placed in this manner, side by side and one above the other, they form a compact, harmonious whole, and the process of building can go on until the entire side of a room is transformed into a beautiful bookcase.

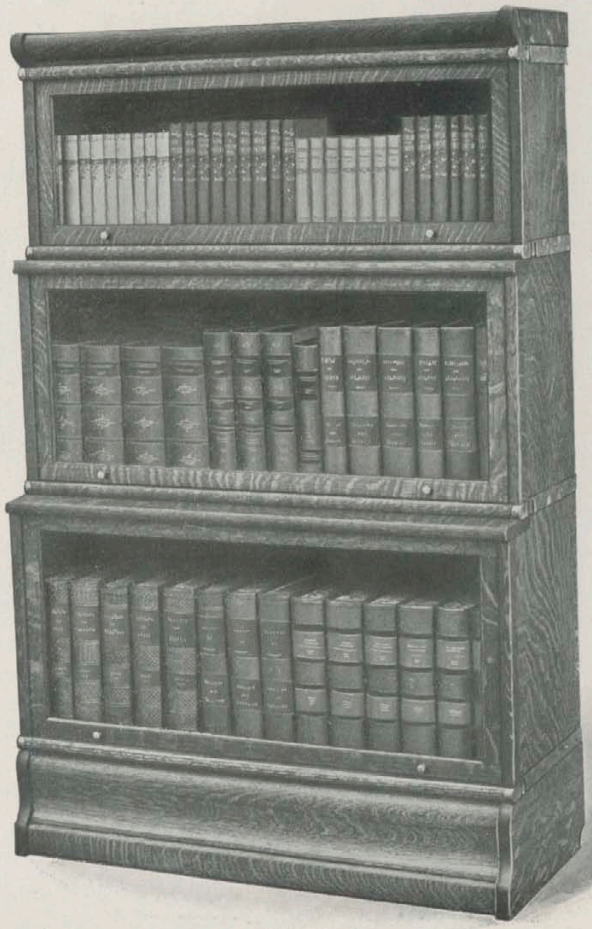
The bookcase will fit nicely into corners, and



Standard style, three-section case.

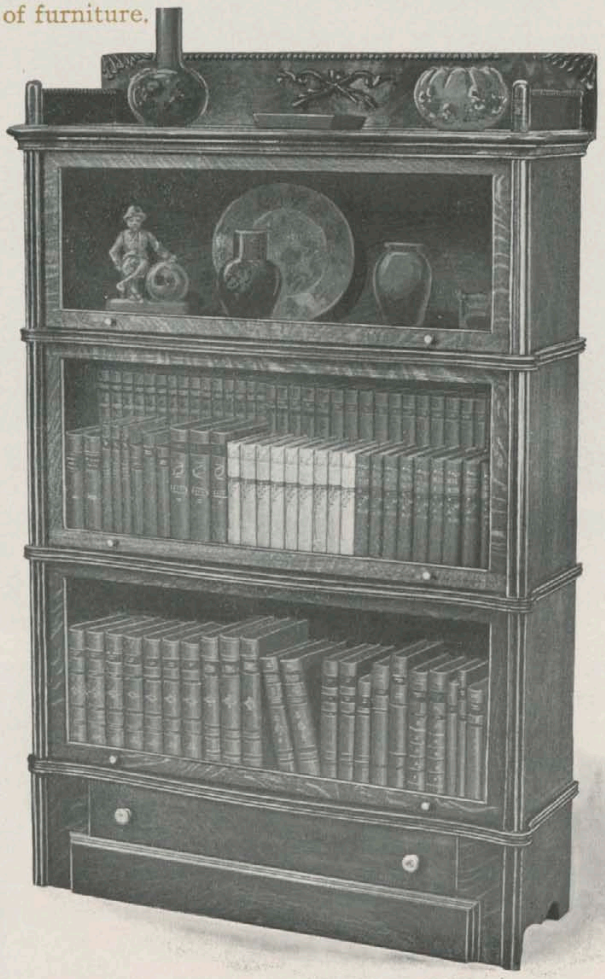
thus extend around all four walls, if desired, without a break. Sometimes specially mitered tops and bases are made to order for corners, but these are not ordinarily desirable. In public libraries and offices the Units can be arranged around pillars, as shown in the illustration, on page 12, or placed back to back, forming a "stack" in the center of a space, or they can be repeated in this manner to form alcoves. See page 11.

In building vertically it is often desirable to accommodate very large and very small books in the same case. The Wernicke System provides for this by means of "Combination Units." These are so constructed that Units for smaller books will fit on top of Units for larger books.



A combination arrangement.

For small libraries, or reference books, style No. 7, shown on this page, is quite a favorite. These Units do not interlock at the ends, and are capable of vertical expansion only. With the ornamented top, serpentine beaded shelves and fluted pilasters, they make a beautiful piece of furniture.

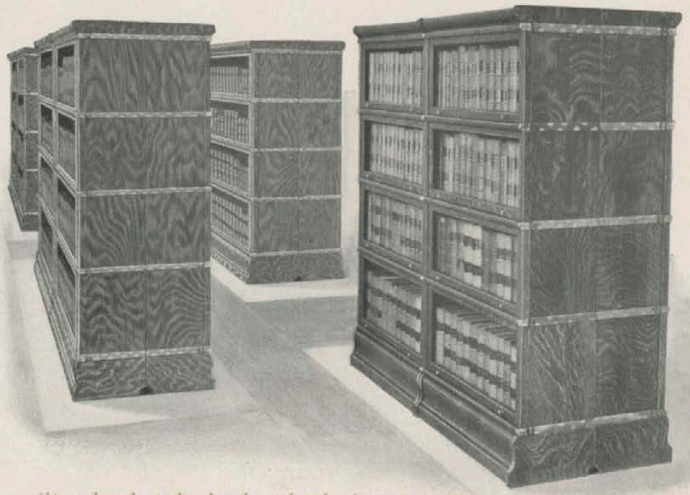


Style No. 7.

Important Consideration.

The Unit System requires that the parts be interchangeable, hence very durable, and perfectly uniform in size. This is a new condition in furniture construction, and is a most difficult one to face. After many years of experience as pioneers in this line, we have solved this problem. It begins with the selection and initial treatment of the materials used, involving new methods, appliances and processes. Ours are the largest, most complete and economical works devoted exclusively to the manufacture of bookcases in the world, enabling us to protect the future interests of our patrons in a manner and on a scale absolutely unequaled. We have expended nearly half a million dollars in the erection and equipment of this plant for the exclusive manufacture of Wernicke Elastic Bookcases, to the end that we may give the public the best service and the best value that money can buy in the shape of bookcases. It is and will continue to be our motto to make and adopt every wise improvement that mature experience may suggest from time to time, regardless of cost or other considerations. Our claims for patronage and favorable consideration by the public are based on the unequaled merits of our goods, the advantages that we can offer to their users, and our reputation for honorable dealing, established for a fifth of a century.

Moving a Wernicke.



Standard style, back to back, forming alcoves.

Wernicke Elastic Bookcases are rapidly replacing all other styles in general use. Unlike articles that are complete within themselves, where all equities between the seller and the user are extinguished at the completion of a sale, the maker or seller of Elastic furniture enters into an implied partnership with every purchaser or user of his goods, and assumes a moral obligation to make it possible for such users to obtain additional Units in extension of the system, at all times, at a fair price, and without delay, inconvenience or other annoyance.

We are the sole legitimate patentees and manufacturers of Elastic Bookcases and Filing Cabinets, and we claim the entire credit for the development of this art up to date. We employ the most expert talent, and our works are equipped with the most economical and efficient facilities for their production in quantity and quality. Our resources are ample to make our guarantees and other obligations worth their face everywhere.

Our factories cover a floor area of more than ten acres. We do not "farm out" the manufacture of any of our products.

In all the principal cities Wernicke Bookcases are for sale by responsible dealers.

Removable Interiors for Door Units.

In the office they lend themselves to a variety of useful combinations for keeping papers and books away from dust. A case of one or more Units on top of a desk is a great convenience, and removable racks for sizes D 10¼ and D 12¼ are carried in stock to add to their efficiency in this respect.

Standard style, four-side square arrangement.

Book Stall Interior for D 10¼ Unit. Openings 4 1/16 inches wide, 9¾ inches high, 9½ inches deep. Price, $2.50.

Book Stall Interior for D 12¼ Unit. Openings 4 1/16 inches wide, 11¾ inches high, 9½ inches deep. Price, $2.50.

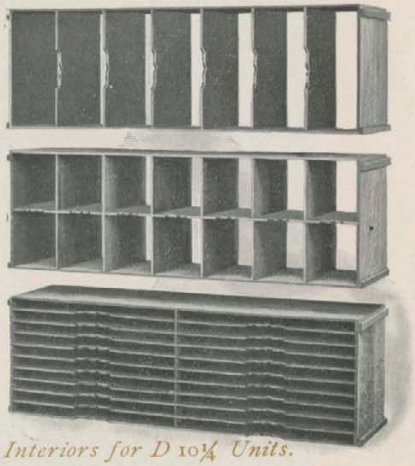
Pigeon-hole Interior for D 10¼ Unit. Openings 4 1/16 inches wide, 4¾ inches high, 9½ inches deep. Price, $2.75.

Pigeon-hole and Legal Blank Interior for D 12¼ Unit. Openings same as 14 P.-H. and 20 L. B., respectively. Price, $3.50.

Legal Blank Interior for D 10¼ Unit. Openings 15¼ inches wide, ¾ inch high, 9½ inches deep. Price, $3.50.

Legal Blank Interior for D 12¼ Unit. Openings same as Legal Blank Interior for D 10¼ Unit. Price, $4.00.

Press-board boxes with Pulls and Label Holders for pigeon-hole interiors. Per doz., $2.50.



Interiors for D 10¼ Units.

For storing unsightly articles, Units can be fitted with ground, chipped or stained glass doors, making a receptacle more convenient for many purposes than drawers. Prices on request.

General Information.

The space for books is available up to the full stated dimensions given in price list.

Standard style Units are provided with interlocking ends, and may be extended in vertical as well as horizontal arrangement; made in all sizes. See price list, page 15.

No. 7 style Units are not provided with interlocking ends, and can be extended in single vertical tiers only. These Units are made in but one depth and two heights. See price list. *The top and Base Units for No. 7 style cannot be used on Standard Units.*

The outside measurements of Standard Door Units are two inches more each way than the inside measurements. The outside measurements of Combination Units are two inches more in depth and width, but three inches more in height, than the inside measurements.

C Units are all 8 inches deep from front to back, by 9½ and 11 inches high inside, suitable for law books and similar volumes.

D Units are all 9½ inches deep from front to back, by 10¼ and 12¼ inches high inside, suitable for such miscellaneous books as are usually found in homes, schools, etc. See raised shelves for very small books, pages 5, 7 and 10. Also "Interiors" on page 12.

E Units are 12 inches deep from front to back, by 13½ inches high inside, suitable for large books, letter files, etc.

Combination Units are the regular standard size inside, and are usually placed next above the Base Units, but can be used in other positions where good appearance is not so important.

C or D Standard and D Combination Units will fit on top of the E Combination.

C Standard Units only, will fit on top of D Combination.

When desired, our bookcase Units will be fitted with our patented locking mechanism, which is invisible except where the key is applied in the Base Unit. Any number of doors in vertical tiers may be locked or unlocked simultaneously, yet the locking device in each unit is independent and does not in any way interfere with their separable feature. Price for "W. E." Locks, 25 cents per door Unit, extra.

Very small books can be arranged in D Units, two rows deep, by means of an elevated shelf in the rear. This will bring one row of books behind the other, but elevated enough to show their titles and make them easily removable. See illustrations, pages 6, 7 and 11.

This shelf, made in two parts, each 16 inches long, will be supplied at 25 cents per pair.

The Units illustrated and priced have all our improvements since 1898. Older styles are also carried in stock. Persons ordering duplicate Units should refer to previous order to avoid mistakes.

Full Description of Grades.

No. 198. Plain Oak, medium dark antique gloss finish, oxidized end trimmings, best quality "A" glass in doors, with solid turned brass knobs.

No. 298. Quarter-sawed Figured Oak, standard antique finish, rubbed down in water and highly polished; otherwise same as No. 198.

No. 299. Quarter-sawed Figured Oak, rich deep-golden oak finish, rubbed down in water and highly polished, buffed and oxidized end trimmings; best quality No. 1 imported glass in doors, with solid turned brass knobs.

No. 398. Birch, medium dark imitation mahogany finish, extra quality solid turned brass door knobs, otherwise same as No. 299.

No. 498. Black Walnut, medium dark finish, and otherwise same as No. 398.

No. 599. Genuine solid Mahogany, finished medium dark, otherwise same as No. 398.

The insides of all our Units are nicely finished to contrast agreeably with exposures; the backs and bottoms are built up from cross-laid rotary cut stock made at our own mill, and will not warp, shrink nor split. All of the wood used in our bookcase Units is carefully selected, well seasoned, and treated by our graduated sweating process under varying temperatures ranging from 70° to 185° F., before it is used. Stock so treated will not check, shrink, swell or warp in any climate or altitude; it will withstand the ravages of steam-heated rooms which are usually so destructive to furniture built in the ordinary and less expensive way.

How to Make Up an Order.

First classify your books according to size or subject. Determine the lineal inches of shelf room needed for each class. Divide by 32, which gives the number of book Units needed. The number of top and base Units will be governed by the arrangement desired.

Our *terms* are always net cash. Money sent with order will be promptly refunded if goods are not satisfactory. We do not require advance payments from parties known to be responsible, or having an established credit with us.

"G.-W." Pays the Freight. You Don't.

Net prices, freight paid to R.R. points east of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico.

STYLES.	INSIDE SIZES IN INCHES			ORDER BY THESE DESCRIPTIONS.	GRADES AND PRICES.						SHIPPING WEIGHTS.
	DEPTH.	HEIGHT.	WIDTH.		ANTQ. PLAIN OAK 198	ANTQ. QUAR. OAK 298	GOLDN. QUAR. OAK 299	IMITA. MAHG. BIRCH 398	SOLID BLACK W'LN'T 498	GEN. SOLID MAH'G 598	
Standard Unit for Books	8	9½	32	C—9½	$2.25	$2.75	$2.75	$2.75	$3.50	$3.75	23 lbs.
Standard Unit for Books	8	11	32	C—11	2.50	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.75	4.00	25 lbs.
Standard Unit for Books	9½	10¼	32	D—10¼	2.50	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.75	4.00	25 lbs.
Standard Unit for Books	9½	12¼	32	D—12¼	2.75	3.25	3.25	3.25	4.00	4.25	30 lbs.
Standard Unit for Books	12	13½	32	E—13½	3.25	4.00	4.00	4.00	5.00	5.50	35 lbs.
Combination Unit for Books	9½	10¼	32	D—10¼ Comb.	2.75	3.25	3.25	3.25	4.00	4.25	30 lbs.
Combination Unit for Books	9½	12¼	32	D—12¼ Comb.	3.00	3.50	3.50	3.50	4.25	4.50	30 lbs.
Combination Unit for Books	12	13½	32	E—Comb.	3.50	4.25	4.25	4.50	5.25	5.75	35 lbs.
	OUTSIDE SIZES.										
Standard Top Unit	11	3	34	C-X Top	1.50	1.75	1.75	1.75	2.25	2.50	15 lbs.
Standard Top Unit	12½	3	34	D-X Top	1.50	1.75	1.75	1.75	2.25	2.50	16 lbs.
Standard Top Unit	15	3	34	E-X Top	2.00	2.25	2.25	2.25	3.00	3.25	17 lbs.
Standard Base Unit	11	7	34	C-X Base	1.50	1.75	1.75	1.75	2.25	2.25	15 lbs.
Standard Base Unit	12½	7	34	D-X Base	1.50	1.75	1.75	1.75	2.25	2.25	16 lbs.
Standard Base Unit	15	7	34	E-X Base	1.50	1.75	1.75	1.75	2.25	2.25	17 lbs.
	INSIDE SIZES.										
No. 7 Unit for Books	9½	10¼	32	No. 7—10¼	2.50	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.75	4.00	25 lbs.
No. 7 Unit for Books	9½	12¼	32	No. 7—12¼	2.75	3.25	3.25	3.25	4.00	4.25	30 lbs.
	OUTSIDE SIZES.										
Top Unit for No. 7	13	7	36	No. 7—Top	2.50	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.75	4.00	15 lbs.
Base Units, with drawer, for No. 7	12	9	35	No. 7—Base	2.50	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.75	4.00	25 lbs.

Add 10 per cent. to the foregoing prices for delivery, freight paid to R.R. points in and west of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico.

The Globe-Wernicke Co.

CINCINNATI,
1224-1248 W. 8TH STREET

NEW YORK,
FULTON AND PEARL STREETS.

CHICAGO,
226-228 WABASH AVENUE

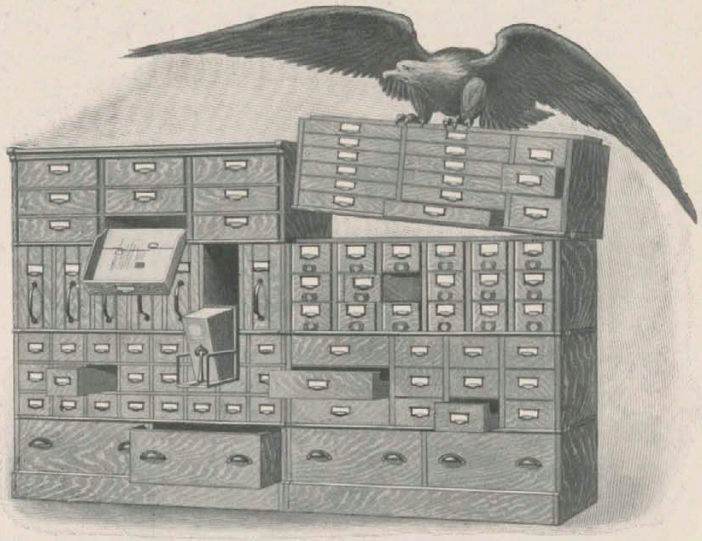
BOSTON,
64-66 PEARL STREET

LONDON,
7 BUNHILL ROW, E.C.

Our Guarantee.

ENTIRE SATISFACTION,
OR RETURN OF GOODS
AT OUR EXPENSE

Always Complete
but
Never Finished.



Globe-Wernicke Elastic Cabinets.

THE UNIT SYSTEM.

Letter files, document files, card indexes, pigeon-hole boxes, legal blank drawers, catalogue drawers, etc. **Catalogue 33.**

Globe Filing Cabinets.

SOLID CONSTRUCTION.

Letter files, document files, mercantile report files, legal blank drawers, etc. **Catalogue 32.**

Globe Card Index Systems.

Made with and without roll fronts, with single drawers, double drawers with extension slides, desk style with base, and in all desirable sizes. **Catalogue 400.**

Any of above catalogues sent on request.

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AMERICAN LITHOGRAPHIC
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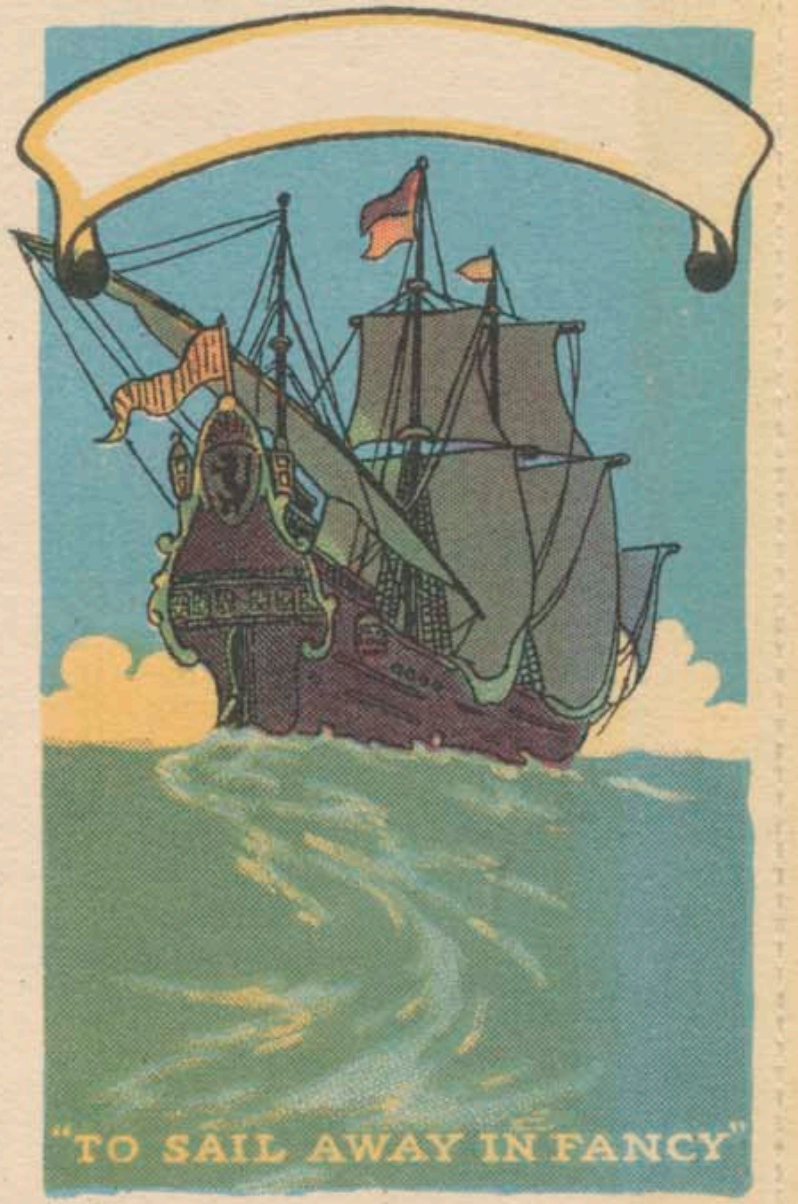

By detaching and mailing above post card a supply of book plates, to identify your books, may be secured, gratis; or you may apply to The Globe-Wernicke Sectional Bookcase Agent in your town (see telephone directory).

EX LIBRIS

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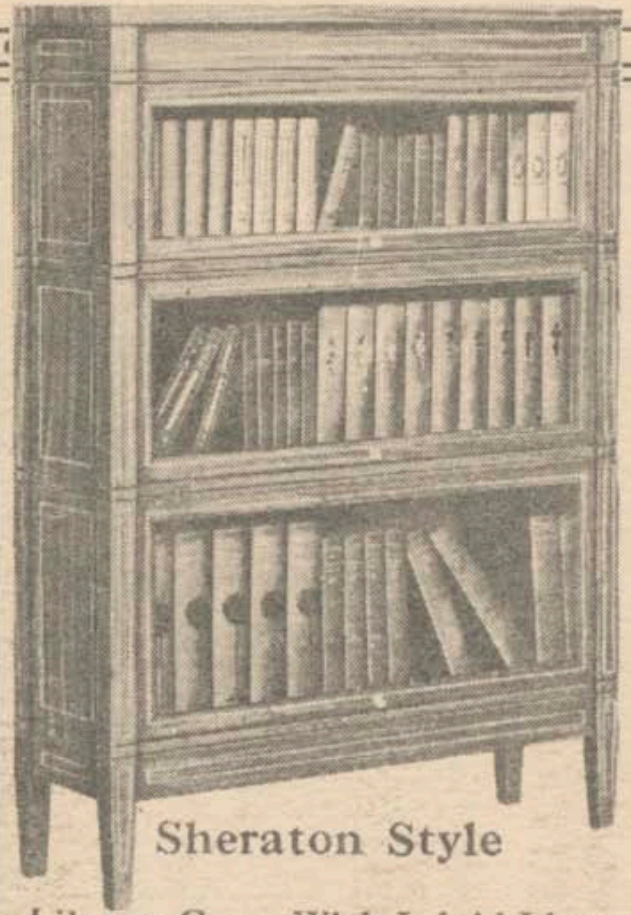


Sheraton Style

Library Case. With Inlaid Lines, No. 1152; Without Inlaid Lines, No. 1152½

Globe-Wernicke Sectional Bookcases are made in a wide choice of styles and finishes to conform to any interior plan.

These styles include

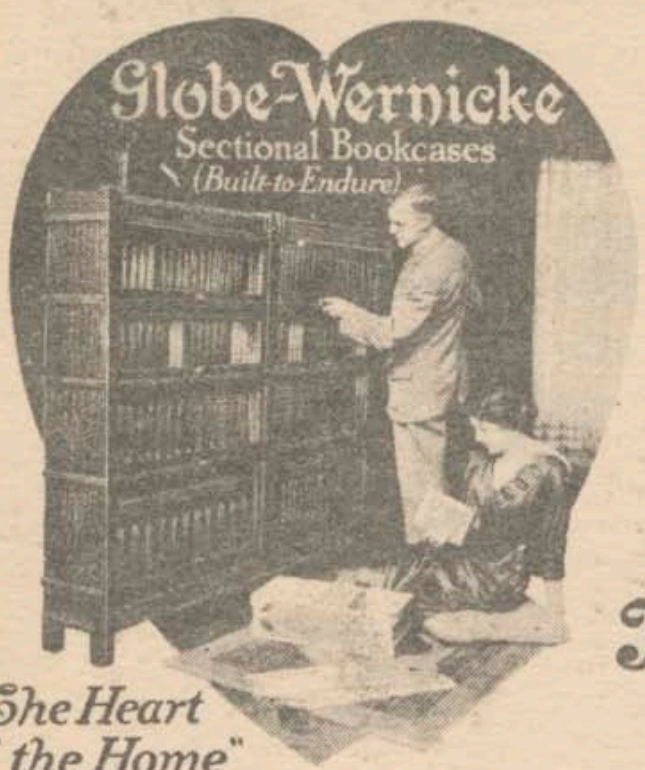
Sheraton,
Colonial,
Mission,
Art Mission,
Ideal,
Standard,
Utility.

Standard Style

THE UNIT IDEA---Originated and brought to the highest state of mechanical and artistic perfection by The Globe-Wernicke Co., Cincinnati.

Globe-Wernicke Sectional Bookcases grow with your growing library. First you get enough sections for your present needs. You arrange them according to personal taste. Then, as you add more books, you get more sections to match. The unseen felt strip (a patented feature) excludes all dust from the sections.

AN INDIVIDUAL GLOBE-WERNICKE BOOKCASE ENCOURAGES SELF CULTURE



The Heart of the Home"

POST CARD

PUT ONE CENT STAMP HERE

The Globe-Wernicke Co.

Cincinnati

DEPT. A **Ohio.**

The Globe-Wernicke Co.,
CINCINNATI.

Please send me a supply of Bookplates, also a copy of your booklet "**The World's Best Books**" containing Lists of Books compiled by eminent literary men, such as, Sir John Lubbock, Canon Farrar, Hamilton Mabie, Dr. Eliot's Five Foot Shelf, etc.

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